(d) if so, the reaction of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b)As informed by ICSSR, the grant to A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies has not been reduced excepting 1999-2000 involving a marginal decrease to the tune of Rs. 0.57 lakh due to economy instructions of the Govt. of India. The grant provided to ANSISS during last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Grants released
1998-99	21.88
1999-2000	21.31
2000-2001	37.50
2001-2002 (Allocation)	43.00

In addition to the above grant, ICSSR provided a sum of Rs. 3.63 lakh during 1998-99 for research and library development. Besides, a sum of Rs. 8.00 lakh was released to the Institute during 2000-2001 as part of ICSSR's share to meet some of the deficits based on the directive from the Patna High Court.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production cost of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton

†*372. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about production cost of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the average production cost of the above products in the country during 1998-99 and 2000-2001; and

(c) the maximum and minimum cost of above products during above years, alongwith the names of concerned States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a)Yes Sir. Under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Principal Crops in India, the Government is preparing estimates of cost of cultivation/production of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton in respect of selected States.

(b) and (c) The average cost of production of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton is given below:

Name of Crop	Cost of Production (Rs./Qtl.)			
	1998-99		2000-2001*	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
Wheat	481.37 (M.P.)	365.77 (Haryana)	580.75 (H.P.)	417.52 (Haryana)
Paddy	594.99@ (Kerala)	337.91@ (U.P.)	705.08 (Kerala)	384.64 (Punjab)
Sugarcane	56.08@ (Haryana)	43.08@ (U.P.)	57.57 (A.P.)	41.74 (Tamil Nadu)
Cotton	2845.02@ (Punjab)	1346.29@ (Rajasthan)	2132.83 (A.P.)	1142.99 (Rajasthan)

@Estimates of 1998-99 not yet released. These estimates pertain to 1997-98.
*Projected.
Source: CACP Reports.

Comprehensive Seed Policy

*373. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring before Parliament a comprehensive seed policy or to overhaul the existing Seeds Act, 1966; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government propose to bring forward a comprehensive seed policy and overhaul the existing Seeds Act, 1966. This is necessitated by far-reaching changes that have taken place in the national economic and agriculture scenario and in the international environment since the enactment of the existing seeds legislation. Moreover special thrust is proposed to be given to production of good quality seed in order to meet the food production targets of the future.